

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A lottery pooling management system comprising:

a participant interface, the participant interface being in communication with a participant computer, the participant interface being configured to ~~increase the chances for each of a plurality of pool participants to win a lottery by enabling~~ enable each of said a plurality of pool participants to participate together ~~as members of a group having a common interest~~ in one or more lottery pools, each at least one lottery pool being associated with a lottery and having a plurality of sets of numbers entered in its associated lottery, said participant interface enabling said pool participants to exchange information regarding each of said lotteries prior to the drawing thereof ~~comprising different sets of lottery numbers respectively provided by different participants;~~

said participant interface being further configured to enable each of said pool participants to be informed of all the said sets of lottery numbers that are entered by respective pool participants in each of said lotteries prior to the drawing thereof;

a lottery interface, the lottery interface being in communication with ~~one or more~~ each of said lotteries and the participant interface, the lottery interface being configured to ascertain drawing results and jackpot amounts for ~~the one or more~~ each of said lotteries, to compare the drawing results with the ~~one or more~~ said sets of lottery numbers entered in the one or more lottery pools, and to recognize that a winning event has occurred when a given one of said sets of lottery numbers is drawn as a winning set for its corresponding lottery; and

a notification interface, the notification interface being in communication with the participant interface and the lottery interface, the notification interface being configured to alert said plurality of pool participants about activity in ~~the one or more~~ each of said lotteries, about the compared drawing results, and, when one of said winning events occurs, to notify each of said plurality of pool participants that they are each entitled to share a ~~jackpot~~ in all

Application No.: 09/803,339
Amendment dated June 17, 2004
Reply to Office Action of December 17, 2003

Attorney Docket No. : 122923-1000

amounts ~~resulting from~~ that are to be paid out as the result of said given set of lottery numbers being drawn as a winning set.

2. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 wherein the participant interface includes a lottery pool creation module to allow pool participants to respectively create new lottery pools.

3. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1 wherein the participant interface includes a ticket entry module to allow pool participants to enter tickets numbers into the lottery pools associated with the pool participants, and to ~~edit the~~ change ticket ~~entries~~ numbers that were entered previously.

4. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1 said plurality of pool participants are each members of a club disposed to participate in a number of successive lotteries, and wherein the participant interface includes a participant history module to allow pool participants to track the history of numbers chosen and played by the pool participants in one or more previous lotteries; and

said notification interface is configured to notify each of said club members when a lottery reaches a specified jackpot level.

5. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the participant interface includes a second chance module to allow pool participants to replay numbers.

6. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the lottery interface is further configured to retrieve rules and regulations associated with the one or more lotteries.

7. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the lottery interface includes a ticket purchasing module to allow the system to purchase tickets for the one or more lotteries at the request of pool participants.

8. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the activity in the one or more lotteries is a completed drawing.

9. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the activity in the one or more lotteries is an updated jackpot amount.

10. (Original) The system of claim 1 further including one or more databases.
11. (Original) The system of claim 10 wherein the one or more databases contain information concerning the one or more sets of lottery numbers.
12. (Original) The system of claim 10 wherein the one or more databases contain information concerning the one or more lottery pools.
13. (Original) The system of claim 10 wherein the one or more databases contain information concerning the pool participants.
14. (Original) The system of claim 10 wherein the one or more databases contain information concerning the one or more lotteries.

15. (Currently Amended) A method of arranging a lottery pools pool via a global communications network comprising the steps of:

~~creating one or more exclusive lottery pools, each exclusive lottery pool being associated with a lottery;~~

~~admitting a plurality of participants into a group comprising associated with each of said lottery pools, wherein the total number of said admitted pool participants is limited to a maximum number selected by a pool participant designated as pool master; each group member is entitled to share in a winning event associated with any one of said lottery pools and to thereby increase the chances for each of said participants to win one or more of said lotteries;~~

~~entering contributing one or more sets of lottery numbers to said into the one or more exclusive lottery pools pool, wherein each of said sets of lottery numbers provided are contributed either by said pool master, by the same pool another pool participant or by different pool participants, selectively;~~

~~entering said one or more sets of contributed lottery numbers into a selected lottery;~~

~~retrieving drawing results and jackpot amounts from said selected the lottery, comparing the drawing results with the said one or more sets of lottery numbers; and~~

~~recognizing that a winning event has occurred when a given one of said sets of contributed lottery numbers is drawn as a winning set in said selected lottery; and~~

~~notifying each of said plurality of pool participants when said winning event occurs, and further notifying each of said pool participants that they are each entitled to a share in every amount that is to be paid out as the result of said given set of lottery numbers being drawn as a winning set. — of the compared drawing results, and of any winning sets of numbers in any of with the lottery pools, and of a jackpot amount resulting from a winning set that is to be shared among each of the plurality of pool participants.~~

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15 wherein ~~each of said the step of creating is performed by the one or more pool participants~~; contributes at least one of said sets of lottery numbers for said selected lottery;

17. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein the step of notifying is performed through electronic mail.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15 ~~further comprising the step of alerting the pool participants about the time remaining before the lottery closes~~ wherein said group of pool participants is limited to said pool master, and to others receiving from the pool master an invitation to join the group and a password for accessing a related system.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18 wherein the step of alerting is performed by a varying color scheme.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15 wherein the compared drawing results identify any matches between ~~the~~ said one or more sets of lottery numbers entered in ~~the one or more said selected lottery, pools and the drawing results of the one or more lotteries associated with the one or more lottery poolssaid selected lottery~~.

21. (Original) The method of claim 20 wherein the matches are highlighted.

22. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein the global communications network is the Internet.

23. (Currently Amended) A computer program embodied on a computer readable medium to arrange lottery pools via a global communications network comprising:

a code segment to allow the creation of one or more exclusive lottery pools, each exclusive lottery pool being associated with a lottery;

a code segment to admit each of a plurality of participants to said lottery pools to increase the chances for each of said participants to win one or more of said lotteries;

a code segment to receive ~~one or more~~ a plurality of sets of lottery numbers into each of the exclusive lottery pools, each of said sets of lottery numbers corresponding to one of said pool participants;

a code segment to retrieve drawing results and jackpot amounts from the lottery;

a code segment to compare the drawing results with the one or more sets of lottery numbers; and to recognize that a winning event has occurred when a given one of said sets of lottery numbers is drawn as a winning set for its corresponding lottery; and

a code segment to notify each one of the plurality of pool participants of the compared drawing results, of any each of said winning sets of numbers events that occurs in any of the lottery pools, of a all jackpot amounts and any other amounts that are to be paid out as the result of said given set of lottery numbers being drawn as resulting from a winning set, and that all of said jackpot amounts and said any other amounts are is to be shared among by each one of the plurality of pool participants.

24. (Previously Presented) The computer program of claim 23 further including a code segment to purchase sets of lottery numbers.

25. (Canceled).

26. (Canceled).

27. (Canceled).

28. (Canceled).

29. (Original) The computer program of claim 23 wherein the global communications network is the Internet.

30. (Currently Amended) A system for lottery pool management over a global communications network comprising:

one or more participant computers;

one or more lottery pool management servers, the one or more lottery pool management servers being in communication with the one or more participant computers through the global communications network; and

a lottery pool management system resident on the one or more lottery pool management servers, wherein the lottery pool management system includes:

a participant interface, the participant interface being in communication with a participant computer, the participant interface being configured to ~~increase the chances for~~ enable each of a plurality of pool participants ~~to win a lottery by enabling each of said plurality of pool participants~~ to participate as members of a group having a common interest in one or more different lottery pools, wherein each lottery pool is associated with a different lottery and each lottery pool ~~comprises one or more~~ has a plurality of sets of lottery numbers respectively provided by one or more of said pool participants;

a lottery interface, the lottery interface being in communication with one or more lotteries and the participant interface, the lottery interface being configured to ascertain drawing results and jackpot amounts for the one or more lotteries, to compare the drawing results with the ~~one or more~~ sets of lottery numbers in the one or more lottery pools, and to recognize that a winning event has occurred when a given one of said sets of lottery numbers is drawn as a winning set for its corresponding lottery; and

a notification interface, the notification interface being in communication with the participant interface and the lottery interface, the notification interface being configured to alert said plurality of pool participants about activity in the one or more lotteries, about the compared drawing results, and, when one of said winning events occurs, to notify each of said plurality of pool participants that they are each entitled to share ~~a jackpot amount~~

Application No.: 09/803,339
Amendment dated June 17, 2004
Reply to Office Action of December 17, 2003

Attorney Docket No. : 122923-1000

~~resulting from~~ in all amounts that are to be paid out as the result of said given set of lottery numbers being drawn as a winning set.

31. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 30 wherein the participant interface includes a lottery pool creation module to allow pool participants to respectively create new lottery pools.

32. (Canceled).

33. (Canceled).

34. (Canceled).

35. (Canceled).

36. (Canceled).

37. (Canceled).

38. (Canceled).

39. (Canceled).

40. (Canceled).

41. (Canceled).

42. (Canceled).

43. (Canceled).

44. (Canceled).

45. (New) A lottery pooling management system comprising:

a participant interface, the participant interface being in communication with a participant computer, the participant interface being configured to increase the chances for each of a plurality of pool participants to win a lottery by enabling each of said plurality of pool participants to participate as members of a group having a common interest in one or more lottery pools, wherein each lottery is limited to a single elective participation event, at least one lottery pool comprising different sets of lottery numbers respectively provided by a one participant or by different participants, selectively;

a lottery interface, the lottery interface being in communication with one or more lotteries and the participant interface, the lottery interface being configured to ascertain drawing results and jackpot amounts for the one or more lotteries to compare the drawing results with the one or more sets of lottery numbers in the one or more lottery pools, and to recognize that a winning event has occurred when a given one of said sets of lottery numbers is drawn as a winning set for the single elective participation event of its corresponding lottery; and

a notification interface, the notification interface being in communication with the participant interface and the lottery interface, the notification interface being configured to alert said plurality of pool participants about activity in the one or more lotteries, about the compared drawing results, and, when one of said winning events occurs, to notify each of said plurality of pool participants that they are each entitled to share a jackpot amount resulting from said given set of lottery numbers being a winning set.

46. (New) The system of claim 45 wherein the participant interface includes a lottery pool creation module to allow pool participants to respectively create new lottery pools.

47. (New) The system of claim 45 wherein the participant interface includes a ticket entry module to allow pool participants to enter tickets numbers into the lottery pools associated with the pool participants and to edit the ticket entries.

48. (New) The system of claim 45 wherein the participant interface includes a participant history module to allow pool participants to track the history of numbers chosen and played by the pool participants.